# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2289
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2016
ASHA
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar;Tadas Shri Ramdas Chandrabhanji

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to expand the services of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) under the National Health Mission (NHM) thereby improving the ASHAs-people ratio across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is availing the services of ASHA in implementing awareness programmes, if so, the type and number of awareness programmes being implemented by them, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra; and

(d) the other steps taken by the Government to create awareness among masses in this regard?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)
(a) & (b): Under the National Urban Health Mission (NUHM), a Sub Mission of the National Health Mission (NHM), a proposal for approval of ASHAs in urban areas on the basis of urban population in exceptional cases, if proposed by the States and UTs has been recently approved by the Mission Steering Group (MSG) in its meeting held on 29th March, 2016.
(c): Public Health is a State subject. Under the NHM, support is provided for availing services of ASHAs, Raising awareness through counselling of pregnant women, mothers and families on key behaviours for positive health outcomes related to maternal, newborn, child health and nutrition etc is a key function of the ASHA. This awareness is undertaken in States/UTs with ASHAs through home visits, monthly meetings of Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committees (VHSNCs), during organisation of Village Health and Nutrition Day and Immunisation sessions.
(d): The major steps taken by the Government to create awareness is at Annexure.